

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-48**

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA STRONGLY URGING THE MIAMI MARLINS TO IMMEDIATELY DISMISS MARLINS MANAGER OZZIE GUILLEN FOR HIS INSULTING AND HIGHLY INSENSITIVE REMARKS THAT HAS DEEPLY OFFENDED MEMBERS IN OUR COMMUNITY WHO HAVE SUFFERED AND THOSE WHO CONTINUE TO SUFFER UNDER THE OPPRESSIVE, TOTALITARIAN REGIMES OF VENEZUELA AND CUBA AND HAS SIMILARLY OFFENDED ALL RESIDENTS OF OUR COMMUNITY WHO BELIEVE IN DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM FOR ALL.

**WHEREAS**, the elected officials and the residents of Hialeah are outraged by the callously insensitive published statements by Marlins Manager Ozzie Guillen praising Hugo Chavez and admiring Fidel Castro; and

**WHEREAS**, these statements have insulted not only Cuban-Americans and Venezuelan-Americans who have greatly suffered under the harsh and tyrannical rule of Fidel Castro and Hugo Chavez but to all Americans who believe in the promise and reality of democracy and freedom for everyone throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hialeah is particularly upset with the Marlins Organization who chose a manager who has made offensive remarks in the past including slurs against gays and disparaging comments about immigrants without considering that past conduct is often a predictor of future conduct; and

**WHEREAS**, while the City recognizes the importance of free speech as a privilege not be abused, the City does understand that the making of a published statement, having wide circulation, containing intemperate and offensive remarks, has personal and public consequence; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents and taxpayers of this community are paying a substantial portion of the Marlins Stadium through public financing and these same members of this community will also be the source of the most of the ticket revenue and attendance at each of the Marlins games; and

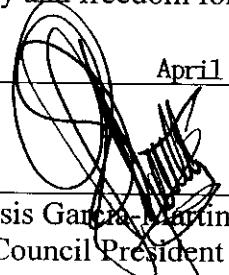
**WHEREAS**, so when the community is deeply offended by senseless remarks insulting the personal deprivation and history of so many in our community who lost family, friends, property and livelihoods at the whim of these dictators, the Miami Marlins must make a decision to respect and support this community as its public representative.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, THAT:

**Section 1.** The foregoing facts and recitations contained in the preamble to this resolution are hereby adopted and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

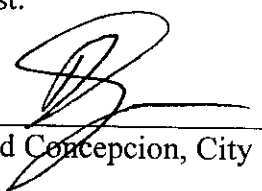
**Section 2.** The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah, Florida hereby strongly urge the Miami Marlins to immediately dismiss Marlins Manager Ozzie Guillen for his insulting and highly insensitive remarks that has deeply offended members in our community who have suffered and those who continue to suffer under the oppressive, totalitarian regimes of Venezuela and Cuba and has similarly offended all residents in our community who believe in democracy and freedom for all.

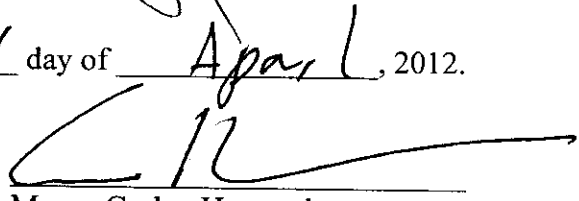
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10 day of April, 2012.

  
Isis Garcia-Martinez  
Council President

Attest:

Approved on this 11 day of April, 2012.

  
David Concepcion, City Clerk

  
Mayor Carlos Hernandez

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

  
William M. Grodnick, City Attorney

Resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote with Councilmembers, Caragol, Casals-Muñoz, Cue-Fuente, Garcia-Martinez, Gonzalez, Hernandez and Lozano voting "Yes".

**Carlos Hernandez**  
Mayor

**Isis Garcia-Martinez**  
Council President

**Luis Gonzalez**  
Council Vice President



Council Members

**Jose F. Caragol**  
**Vivian Casals-Muñoz**  
**Katharine E. Cue-Fuente**  
**Paul B. Hernandez**  
**Lourdes Lozano**

# City of Hialeah

March 28, 2012

Mr. Jeffrey Loria  
Owner  
Miami Marlins  
501 Marlins Way  
Miami, Florida 33125

Dear Mr. Loria,

I write to you to enthusiastically voice my disgust with the recent comments of your team manager, Mr. Ozzie Guillen, in relation to Cuban tyrant, Fidel Castro. As you know, Cuba is a totalitarian communist country that does not tolerate opposition to official policy. The Cuban government continues to deny its citizens their basic human rights, including the right to change their government. Moreover, the Cuban government has committed countless serious abuses against the citizens of Cuba, including torture, incarceration, arbitrary arrest and detention, denial of medical care, harassments and threats. Cuba is on our Country's Department of State's list of State Sponsors of Terrorism, and for nearly half a century the United States has unilaterally imposed an economic, commercial, and financial embargo against Cuba.

The elected officials and the residents of Hialeah are outraged by the callously insensitive published statements made by Marlins Manager Ozzie Guillen and his admiring of Fidel Castro. These statements have insulted not only the Cuban-American community, but the Venezuelan-American community as well. The exile communities of both countries have greatly suffered under the harsh and tyrannical rule of Fidel Castro and Hugo Chavez.

Please be advised of the sentiments of the City Council and myself which are fully expressed in the attached resolution that was unanimously passed by the seven members of the Hialeah City Council. Mr. Guillen's provocative statements are a slap in the face of those who have fought oppression in this community and everywhere else in the world. Therefore, I strongly urge that you call for the resignation of Mr. Guillen.

If I can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (305) 883-5800.

Sincerely,

Carlos Hernandez  
Mayor, City of Hialeah

CH/aa

Cc: Team President, Mr. David Samson